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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/606,412	06/25/2003	Robert B. Saethre	2002-0042-01	5670
7590	02/10/2005		EXAMINER LEON, EDWIN A	
William C. Cray c/o Cymer, Inc. Legal Dept. 17075 Thornmint Court San Diego, CA 92127			ART UNIT 2833	PAPER NUMBER

DATE MAILED: 02/10/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/606,412

Applicant(s)

SAETHRE ET AL.

Examiner

Edwin A. León

Art Unit

2833

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 19 November 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-28 and 33-72 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6, 13, 14, 17, 18, 25-28, 37-45, 52-57, 64-67 and 70-72 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 7-12, 19-24, 33-36, 46-51, 58-63, 68 and 69 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

1. Applicant's amendment filed November 19, 2004 in which the Specification, Drawings and Claim 24 have been amended, Claims 29-32 have been cancelled and new Claims 40-72 have been added, has been placed of record in the file.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

3. Claims 1-4, 13-14, 25-28, 37-39, 40-43, 52-55, 64-67 and 70-72 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Nicholson (U.S. Patent No. 6,237,690). With regard to Claims 1, 13, 25, 40, 52 and 64, Nicholson discloses an apparatus comprising: a high voltage connector (10) attached to at least a portion of the cable (11) on at least one end of the cable (11); a push through high voltage connector receptor (inside plug body 5; Column 6, 66-67) means within one module (3); and, a disconnection (Column 8, Lines 1-8 explain that (30) urges the carriage forwardly therefor it is inherent that (30) can also be used as a disconnection means by moving it

Art Unit: 2833

rearwardly) mechanism (30) within the one module adapted to move the high voltage connector (10) and the at least a portion of cable (11) to which the high voltage connector (10) is attached through the connector receptor (inside plug body 5; Column 6, 66-67) from a contact position to a housed position in a direction away from the other module (2) to which high voltage connection is to be made. See Figs. 1-4 and 6.

The limitation "for electrically connecting two closely positioned high voltage modules with little or no bend and without any loops in an electrical interconnecting coaxial cable" has been given little patentable weight since it has been held that a recitation with respect to the manner in which a claimed apparatus is intended to be employed does not differentiate the claimed apparatus from a prior art apparatus satisfying the claimed structural limitations. *Ex. parte Masham*, 2 USPQ2d 1647 (1987).

With regard to Claims 2, 14, 26, 41, 53, and 65 Nicholson discloses the high voltage connector receptor (inside plug body 5; Column 6, 66-67) comprising: an open cylindrical connector (5) with a contacting surface (Column 6, 66-67) contained on the interior wall (Column 6, 66-67) of the cylindrical connector (5). See Figs. 1-4 and 6.

With regard to Claims 3, 4, 15-16, 27-28, 42-43, 54-55 and 66-67, Nicholson discloses an interlock mechanism (means) (actuating mechanism, Column 8, Line 3) in operative connection with the disconnection mechanism (30) and adapted to provide an indication of the high voltage connector (10) being in a position other than in the contact position relative to the connector receptor (inside plug body 5; Column 6, 66-67). See Figs. 1-4 and 6.

With regard to Claims 37-39, and 70-72, Nicholson discloses an apparatus comprising: a first high voltage connector (10) attached to at least a portion of the cable (11) on one end of the cable (11) and a second high voltage connector (5) attached to at least a portion of the cable (11) at a second end of the cable (11); a push through high voltage connector receptor (inside plug body 5; Column 6, 66-67) within the first module (3); a disconnection mechanism (30) within the first module (3) adapted to move the high voltage connector (10) and the at least a portion of cable (11) to which the high voltage connector (10) is attached through the connector receptor (inside plug body 5; Column 6, 66-67) from a contact position to a housed position in a direction away from the other module (2) to which high voltage connection is to be made; and a retractable connector means (6) within the second module (2) moveable toward the first module (3) from a retracted position into an extended position, in which extended position electrical contact is made with the second high voltage connector (5). See Figs. 1-4 and 6.

The limitation “for electrically connecting a first and a second closely positioned high voltage module with little or no bend and without any loops in an electrical interconnecting coaxial cable” has been given little patentable weight since it has been held that a recitation with respect to the manner in which a claimed apparatus is intended to be employed does not differentiate the claimed apparatus from a prior art apparatus satisfying the claimed structural limitations. *Ex. parte Masham*, 2 USPQ2d 1647 (1987).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 5-6, 17-18, 44-45 and 56-57 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Nicholson (U.S. Patent No. 6,237,690) in view of Pauza et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,890,926). Nicholson discloses the claimed invention as shown above except for an engaging mechanism engaging the cable and holding the cable in a fixed position relative to the disconnection mechanism as the high voltage connector moves between the contact position and the housed position.

Pauza et al. discloses a similar connector (70) having an engaging mechanism (66) engaging the cable (42) and holding the cable (42) in a fixed position relative to a disconnection mechanism (12). See Figs. 2-4.

Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the apparatus of Nicholson by having an engaging mechanism engaging the cable and holding the cable in a fixed position relative to the disconnection mechanism as taught in Pauza et al. in order to control the path of the cable more securable to the apparatus (Pauza et al.; Column 1, Lines 4-6)

Allowable Subject Matter

6. Claims 7-12, 19-24, ~~32~~-36, 46-51, 58-63 and 68-69 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims as stated in the Office Action of October 20, 2004.

Response to Arguments

7. Applicant's arguments filed November 19, 2004 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. In response to Applicant's arguments regarding Claims 2, 14 and 26 that the Nicholson reference doesn't show a push through high voltage connector receptacle, Applicant's attention is directed to Column 6, 66-67 in which the Nicholson reference clearly states that contact pin is received inside the plug body (5) which can be considered a connector receptacle. Furthermore, Applicant's attention is directed to Column 8, Lines 1-14 in which the Nicholson reference clearly states that the plug body (5) moves forwardly. Therefore, the connector receptacle (inside plug body 5; Column 6, 66-67) moves with the body (5) and constitute a push through connector able to function as Applicant's invention. It is the Examiner's opinion that the Nicholson reference meets Applicant's claims in their broadest interpretation.

In response to Applicant's arguments regarding Claims 2, 14 and 26 that the Nicholson reference doesn't show an open cylindrical connector with a contacting

surface contained on the interior wall of the cylindrical connector, Applicant's attention is directed to Column 6, Lines 66-67 in which Nicholson clearly discloses an open cylindrical connector (5) with a contacting surface (Column 6, 66-67) contained on the interior wall (Column 6, 66-67) of the cylindrical connector (5). Applicant is reminded that body (5) is an open cylindrical connector and that the contact sleeve can be considered a contacting surface since it contacts pin (10). It is the Examiner's opinion that the Nicholson reference meets Applicant's claims in their broadest interpretation.

In response to Applicant's arguments regarding Claims 3-4, 15-16 and 27-28 that the Nicholson reference doesn't show an interlock mechanism, the Examiner apologizes for the mistake of missing the reference column and line to identify the interlock mechanism. As now identified in the rejection, the actuating mechanism mentioned in Column 8, Line 3 can be considered the interlock mechanism (means). It is the Examiner's opinion that the Nicholson reference meets Applicant's claims in their broadest interpretation.

Conclusion

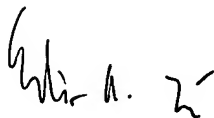
8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Edwin A. León whose telephone number is (571) 272-2008. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday 10:00-6:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Paula A. Bradley can be reached on 571-272-2800, extension 33. The fax

Art Unit: 2833

phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Edwin A. Leon
AU 2833

EAL
February 7, 2005



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